

“Lamb to the Slaughter” by Roald Dahl
Reading Questions

Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Restate the question in your answer.

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. At the beginning of the text, how does Dahl describe Mary’s characteristics? What **textual evidence** does the author use to describe Mary and her house in order to achieve this effect?

2. Although the reader is not told specifically, what news do you think Patrick has for Mary? **Cite textual evidence to support your answer.**

3. How does Mary’s behavior at the grocery shop contradict what has happened earlier in the story? Why is her visit to the grocery shop an important piece of the story?

4. The police officers do not suspect Mary for the murder. How does her behavior play a role in assuring this didn't happen? **Cite textual evidence to support your answer.**

5. What is ironic about the end of the story? **Cite the evidence from the story that foreshadows this event.**

Literary Analysis Questions

1. What is the **narrative point of view** of the story?

2. Describe the main **conflict** in the story. What type of conflict is this?

3. What is the **theme** of "Lamb to the Slaughter"?
